



The Sagehen

Winter 2002 — 2003

A publication of AAUW Nevada

President's Message

November...it's that time of year! My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. It's full of getting together, including strangers, sharing the fruit of our labors, experiencing those traditions and being thankful...sounds like an AAUW branch meeting.

The elections are history...my heartfelt thanks go to **Byllie D. Andrews**, **Bobbie Gang** and **Janet Traut** for producing the Legislative Survey. We received information in time for both the primary and general elections. Thanks also go to **Holly Gallup** and **Evelyn Cumming** for enclosing the survey in *The Sagehen*. Included on our website, aauwnv.org, the results of the survey helped me learn the positions of the candidates about my, and AAUW, issues...an important input to my voting. I'm sure that the same was true for you. I hope many of you are using our website to find the information you need about AAUW in Nevada.

December is, traditionally, that time of year when we write checks to organizations that support who and what we are. Let your contributions speak. When you are writing those checks, don't forget the organization that you belong to. AAUW now has three separate areas for contribution: the Educational Foundation, Legal Advocacy Fund and Leadership Training Institute. All are tax deductible.



I have a dream and am in the process of seeing what I can do to make it happen. I was inspired by our past Fall Conference where we started thinking in BIG terms, especially about fundraising at the state level. I'd like to get a famous person to come to Nevada and lend her support to make it all happen—perhaps even filling up a football stadium. Pretty big dream, huh? I'd like her to be identified with a characteristic that is in tune with our mission. I have someone in mind and will fill you in on the progress soon.

About two years ago, we learned of some concerns with the Nevada Girls' State program. I volunteered to be on the committee. Truthfully, nothing much has been done, but I haven't forgotten. If you were a "Girls' Stater", please let me know. I plan to open communications with the American Legion Auxiliary about Girls' State and would like support. Any others who are interested may also contact me.

This is our first Sagehen issue where we are distributing the newsletter both electronically and traditionally. I want to thank all of you who are participating

in the plan to save some money and yet be informed of what is happening in Nevada.

Thanks to **Shirley Hoffman**, we have the AAUW NV members database necessary for this trial to move forward. The database development was a time-consuming, tedious job and we are grateful to Shirley for her willingness to take on the task. Again, "Thank you, Shirley!"

Mary Jane Evans
AAUW Nevada President

AAUW Nevada Committees

We had quite an open discussion during the Fall Leadership Conference. The following are the various committees that were formed. If anyone would like to join a committee, please contact Mary Jane Evans or a committee member.

President-Elect Proposal

Anne Pelish

Janet Traut

Linda Sekiguchi

Awards Committee

Anne Stilwill

Valeria McNay

Byllie Andrews

Deana Terrell

Flo Bedrosian

Leadership Development Funds

Shirley Hoffman

Anne Pelish

Stephanie Alberts-Weber

Janice Flanagan

Use of Funds from Western Regional Conference

Holly Gallup

Monica Fuller

Anne Pelish

State Fundraising

Wilma Miers

Carleen Ernest

Membership Matters

Good news! The **Give a Grad a Gift** program has been extended and now runs all year long. That's right! You can give a recent graduate a one-year AAUW membership (Association dues only) at any time during the year, at no cost to you or to the grad. For an application, call your branch membership chair, or fill out the online application at www.aauw.org/6000/gradgift.html. To help your new grad get all the benefits of membership, why not pay her local dues as part of your gift.



Do you know someone who qualifies for honorary life membership in AAUW, but doesn't have the records to prove her 50 years of membership? Association has revised the application process and no longer requires that you submit all the supporting documentation. For the updated application, contact your branch membership chair, or AAUW online at: www.aauw.org/6000/forms/hlmap.html.

Just a reminder...branches can obtain free membership brochures through **Shop AAUW**, for just the cost of shipping. There is no minimum order, even for credit card orders. If you can't wait for the new Shop AAUW catalog, being mailed with your November Outlook, you can visit **Shop AAUW** at aauw.tranguard.com. Remember, we're all part of the AAUW membership committee. Carry an AAUW brochure to remind yourself to speak up about AAUW.

Reaching Out: check out these ideas that can help you reach out to members of the community who may be interested in AAUW priorities.

Focus on girls. Check out the compelling, fast paced video, **Tech-Savvy Girls**, based on the AAUW EF research project **Tech-Savvy: Educating Girls in the New Computer Age** (report available through Shop AAUW). Use the video, which examines the under-representation of girls in technology courses and careers, as the basis for a community discussion on steps that parents and educators can take to close the technology gender gap. AAUW members receive a \$15 discount on the \$25 video, which comes with a viewer's guide, when you order through www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/savvy/aauw.shtml.

Plan a program or project that promotes full participation of people with disabilities and win \$1000. AAUW is one of 40 non-disability groups that work with the National Partnership Program. Through this collaboration, each year one or more AAUW branches or states can receive up to \$1,000 for outstanding disability programs or projects. The program is sponsored by the National Organization on Disability (NOD), with Aetna U.S. Healthcare funding the award. The cash award is designed to assist the branch or state in continuing its efforts to address and support members, community allies or the general public with quality of life and inclusiveness issues that affect people with disabilities. For more information and action ideas, see the Lend a Hand! feature on NOD's web site: www.nod.org. For applications for the grant award for

completed projects, visit www.aauw.org/7000/nod/index.html. The deadline is April 21, 2003.

Branch leaders, do you want opportunities to:

- ...recruit help for a branch project?
- ...increase the number of young women in your branch?
- ...boost your visibility in your community?
- ...strengthen ties to local institutions of "higher ed"?
- ...enhance your branch members' mentoring skills?

If your answer is "yes" to any of these questions, then you are invited to participate in the **AAUW Emerging Leaders Internship Program**. Each branch can appoint up to three undergraduate student interns to work on AAUW programs, public policy issues, and/or membership issues, for one year, under the guidance of a branch leader.

Under this program, interns become student affiliates of the branch for the 2002-2003 membership year and receive all the benefits of student affiliation. Association membership fees for these interns are waived for the year and you are encouraged to waive branch student affiliate fees as well. For guidelines, applications, campus announcements with position descriptions, work plans and online registration forms, see www.aauw.org/6000/internpr.html. For more information on student affiliate memberships and benefits in general, see: www.aauw.org/9000/search.html.

Holly Gallup
AAUW Nevada Membership VP

International Concerns

Evelyn Cumming, International Liaison

- The Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF), a grant awarding organization to which many Nevada AAUW members belong, has moved. Since its inception VGIF has shared the office of AAUW New York City Branch, but in recent years has outgrown the space available. The committee



investigating a move determined that remaining in the city offered valuable close contact with the UN and other international organizations. A generous grant from member **Virginia Palmer** enabled the relocation, thus ensuring that contributions from members will not be used to acquire or maintain the office. In fact, many expenses previously covered by donations to the fund will be covered by the **Palmer Fund**, thus releasing more money for grants to assist women and girls. New address: VGIF, 3 West 29th Street, New York, NY 10001. Phone #: 212-213-0684 and e-mail: vgif.org.

- The Bina Roy Partners in Development Program (BRPID) of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) has a primary goal to encourage projects empowering women and girls through education and leadership development. Donor contributions are used to help cover the IFUW

Continued on page 3 (Int'l Concerns)

In the branches...

Valley Branch is having an upbeat year. We are averaging 70% of our membership at branch meetings, and recruitment of new members continues to be very positive. During this holiday season some of Valley's members will join the other southern Nevada branches at their special functions. They are Boulder City's fundraising house tour and Las Vegas Branch's high tea. At our own holiday party we will bring gifts to be donated to a local abused women's shelter. Valley's main fundraiser this year will be the publication of a cookbook. We invite Nevada AAUW members to send their favorite recipes to our VP for Fundraising, Sarah Arnold. Sarah's e-mail address: illinirdhd@aol.com.

Best wishes for a joyous and peaceful holiday season from the ladies of Valley Branch.

From: **Elinor Nelson** – Valley Branch President

Boulder City Branch November meeting was held in conjunction with The Rainbow Girls to discuss the Road to a College Education.

From: BC Branch newsletter, *The Roadrunner*

A dozen **Tahoe Nevada Branch** members this Fall continued a tradition of acting as line judges for the Incline High School girls' volleyball home games. **Margaret Solomon's** arranging for the judges helps with the athletic budget and keeps members involved with local young girls. Also happening at "The Lake" was a meeting that focused on the Stewart Indian School in Carson City. Dr. Eugene Hattori, curator of anthropology with The Nevada State Museum, spoke about the present display at the museum of Native American Heritage, which includes a section on that boarding school in the 19th century.

Sparks Branch deserves special mention this issue for their arrangements for our Fall Conference. Though a small branch, these members put together a hugely successful conference. This year the branch has co-Presidents, Marian Nason and Christi Pagni.

Reno Branch continues its coalition with the **Nevada Women's History Project** in support of the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Fund, this time with an Open House at the home of Karen and Steve Benna. Mark your calendars for March 22, 2003. This will be a very special evening.

Funds raised will benefit the costs of the project such as artist fees, materials and transportation of the statue to Statuary Hall in D.C. Many feel that the project is worthy of our support because the statue represents Nevada and women of diversity. This year Karen Benna, Lisa Lightfoot and I, Carleen Ernest, put our heads together to create an evening of fun, food and entertainment. Karen and Steve Benna have generously offered their house for the event.

The Benna home, a Frank Lloyd Wright design house recently featured on PBS, was completed this past spring. I speak from personal experience that this house is filled with unique and interesting features; combined with period touches, it is a pleasure to tour. Located high in the Virginia Foothills the house offers views of the valley below and the mountains. Wild horses roam down the hill. The owners have

spared no expense and have made every effort to be true to the Wright design. Don Thompson, a Reno local, will present his interpretation of Frank Lloyd Wright. The event will start at about 4 p.m. just in time to view the sunset over snow-clad Mt. Rose. Molly's Catering will provide food and Karen and Steve have promised continuous tours throughout the evening. A silent auction will round out the event.

Guests are encouraged to wear 1920s period costumes. The cost for this event will be \$40. I hope many of you will plan to attend. Come and bring a spouse, a friend or two. All proceeds will go to the Sarah Winnemucca Statue project. Look for a flyer in the January issue of the Reno Branch newsletter, *The Chanticleer*, or phone 775-787-8779. From: **Carleen Ernest**, AAUW Reno Branch



Congratulations are in Order...

Byllie D'Amato Andrews, Tahoe Nevada Branch member and AAUW Nevada Public Policy Chair, will receive her PhD from UNR in December. Currently teaching part time at Sierra Nevada College Byllie's degree work is with the Education Department, specializing in curriculum and instruction. "Way to go Byllie!"

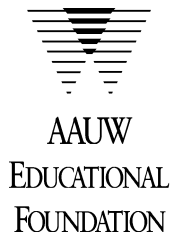
Please Mark Your Calendars

- February 15 – *The Sagehen* articles deadline
 - March 9, 10, 11 – Grassroots Lobby Days, Nevada Women's Lobby, Carson City (see article)
 - March 22 – Reno Branch/NWHP Fundraiser (see "In the branches...")
 - May 2, 3, 4 – AAUW Nevada Convention, Holiday Inn Emerald Springs, Las Vegas
 - June 20 - 23 – AAUW Convention, Providence, RI
 - July 15 – The Sagehen articles deadline
 - October 11, 12 – AAUW Nevada Fall Conference, Boulder City, Conference Chair: Janette Smith
 - August 4 - 10, 2004 – IFUW Conference, Perth, Australia
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Int'l Concerns...continued

membership fees of national affiliates who are developing projects. In turn, these national affiliates invest an equivalent sum in their project work. A list of matching projects in the program for the advancement of women and girls is on the IFUW website: ifuw.org. The BRPID Program enables groups of women graduates throughout the world to be part of IFUW, permitting IFUW to be a truly global organization. Branches and individuals may contribute to the BRPID. Contact IFUW, 8 rue de l'Ancien-Port, CH-1201, Geneva, Switzerland.

Greetings from your State EF Chair!



Let me first of all wish you and your families a happy, healthy holiday season. At this time of year with giving and receiving very much on our minds, I wanted to tell you about the revamping of the "Matching Gifts" Program.

In the past, AAUW did not actively pursue Matching Gift contributions from the corporate sector. The Development Team now plans to encourage greater participation as a part of their overall strategy to take the total burden of contributions off the membership. A bookmark has been developed which will be distributed, along with gift receipts sent to all donors, as well as placed in targeted mailings sent out by all three corporations. Ads will be placed in corporate newsletters, the LAF Update and Branching Out. In addition ads will be found in the Spring, 2003 issue of AAUW in Action.

Corporate Matching Gifts are an easy way to double the impact of a gift. Many companies will match employee gifts to charitable organizations; some match contributions from spouses, retired employees and spouses of retired employees. Others provide matching grants to reward hours volunteered on the job. Branches and States will continue to receive credit for matching gifts. If you or your employers have questions about this program, they can email Development @aauw.org or telephone Sharon McShane at 202-728-3306.

On a more 'localized note', I have the figures of the branches that contributed to fundraising at fall board: Capital, Fallon, Las Vegas, Reno and Sparks will be credited \$16.20 with national and the State will contribute \$74. Thank you all! I would like to set a goal of 100% branch participation for our state convention this May.

I have also received the contributions report from national of what they received from all branches through 9-30-02. As most contributions have circumvented me this year, I have no way of verifying the accuracy of these amounts. Therefore, would the EF Chair, President or Treasurer of each branch PLEASE send me a report of the contributions so that I can double check these amounts before year-end.

A last reminder...all contributions for 2002 must be received in DC by January 15, 2003 or by me before January 6, 2003 so that I can prepare a consolidated report and get it to DC in time. Any late contributions will be credited to the 2003 calendar year--there are no exceptions, so please be prompt.

See you in May in Las Vegas!

Monica Fuller
Nevada EF Chair

Note: January 10, 2003 is the postmark deadline for the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships. Application and information available at aauw.org. NOW is the time to contact those K-12 public school teachers...motivate them to apply.

AAUW Nevada on the web:
aauwnv.org
AAUW in Washington, DC on the web:
aauw.org
AAUW Member HELPLINE:
1-800-821-4364

LAF at Work...

The cases described below are two samples of the type of litigation supported by AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). The financial grants from LAF have enabled these women to continue their pursuit of justice.

Anne Pelish
Nevada LAF Chair

Miller et al v. Texas Tech University School of Health Sciences



Lucinda Miller, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and Elaine King-Miller (no relation), former associate dean for outcome assessment, filed a joint suit against the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for sex discrimination in the denial of tenure in November 2000. In February 2002, the judge denied the university's motion for summary judgment, allowing the suit to proceed to trial. A trial date has not been set. *In June 2002 the LAF Board of Directors awarded an additional \$10,000 to Lucinda Miller. Since adopting the case in June 2001, the LAF board has awarded \$22,500 and the Rawalt Trustees have awarded \$2,500 for a total of \$25,000 to Miller.*

Sokol v. St. Louis Community College (MO)



Kathy Sokol, former chair of the department of hospitality studies/tourism, sued St. Louis Community College for sexual harassment and retaliation in March 2001. During a recent deposition, the college investigator testified that critical information was withheld from the college sexual harassment committee that initially investigated Sokol's complaint against a former colleague. *In June 2002 the LAF Board of Directors awarded an additional \$15,000 to Kathy Sokol. Since adopting the case in February 2002, the board has awarded \$25,000 and the Rawalt Trustees have awarded \$2,500 for a total of \$27,500 to Sokol.*

Notes from your Rocky Mtn. Director

The following key messages are from the AAUW Board of Directors meeting which I attended in Washington DC, Nov. 7-10, 2002. More details will be forwarded to your president soon. Have a great holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Cordially,
Misaka

Jeanette

Rocky Mtn. Regional Director

- The Leadership Training Institute (LTI), a 501(c)(3) corporation, is up and running. Through a generous donation from one of our donors, it is funded for this next year. LTI proposals may be written and funds received to promote projects for the Association. Donations to the Association LTI are tax deductible as donations to the Educational Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund have always been. Donations must be used strictly for LTI projects; they can not be transferred to other Association budget items.

- The new Cross Corporate Business Development Department, under the directorship of Lynn McNair, has been doing a great job of fund raising for AAUW. In the 11 months that Lynn has been in charge, good progress has been made. One focus of the department, planned giving, is a topic you'll be hearing more about in your AAUW publications. If you want to participate in this program by leaving funds to AAUW in your will, let Lynn know. You will also receive the lovely legacy circle pin acknowledging your future gift. Beulah Boyd recently left \$1,000,000.00 to EF and to LTI. This was an unexpected, generous and much appreciated gift.

- After the November 5th election, the Voter Education Campaign is even more important and the Board reaffirmed its support. There will be challenges ahead for AAUW, especially regarding judicial appointments and reproductive choice. Ellen Buchman is making sure that AAUW talks with both sides of the aisle on these issues. We need to be in touch also with our senators and representatives, locally and nationally, to keep them well informed about our AAUW priorities.



- We adopted a revised public policy program for presentation at convention. Some of our Rocky Mtn. States will be pleased that campaign finance reform is one of its priorities. AAUW in Arizona and in New Mexico focused on that issue this past year.

- Rally your members to start planning to attend the Association Convention, June 20 - 23, 2003 in Providence, RI. There will be a lot to vote on and we want Rocky Mountain Region well represented.

- Association Convention planning is moving along well. The new format will allow for State and Branch exhibits of Best Practices, so be thinking about what your Branch/State might want to share. I know we have wonderful things going on in our region. Convention planners will request that you prepare hand-outs to give to visitors to your exhibit. More convention information will be forthcoming.

- Study the change in dues structure/increase as well as the resolution on membership categories and be ready to vote at convention.

- The Board of Directors voted to increase Member-At-Large dues to \$42.00.

- Membership recruitment and retention remains a high priority. Be sure to let the new members know all of the benefits of membership.

- There are many new staff members at AAUW headquarters, all competent, energetic and supportive of AAUW priorities. Most are working double duty on our programs, projects, requests and budget cutting efforts. Please be patient with them if they don't answer your requests immediately or can't find the information you have sent earlier. New hires are just learning the routine of their jobs. When you make requests, treat them with courtesy and respect. It will help lessen their stress level and I know they will greatly appreciate your efforts.

- AAUW has decided to discontinue using the current vendor for note cards/calendars and will be seeking other vendors. (Your concerns have been heard.)

- The deadline to request a Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) litigant to attend your state convention is December 15, 2002. Send your request directly to LAF President Sylvia Newman.

- The LAF Justice Fund is underway.

- This fall I visited leadership meetings/conferences in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. I hope to get to Nevada and Arizona soon. The newly elected presidents and their boards are doing a fantastic job in AAUW programming. I thank them for making my job as regional director easier and even more enjoyable this second year.

- We have a candidate for the position of Rocky Mtn. Regional Director, 2003-2005. She is Evelyn Cumming from Reno, NV. Evelyn was one of the co-chairs of the successful tri-regional conference we had in Reno in May 2002.

AAUW Mission and Diversity Statements

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change. In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

GRASSROOTS LOBBY DAYS

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday; March 9-11, 2003

Come to Carson City and add your voice to others as an advocate for women and families at the 2003 legislature. Individuals and organizations will unite at Grassroots Lobby Days, March 9-11 for training, inspiration and lobbying of their legislators. Since 1991, Lobby Days has been organized by the Nevada Women's Lobby to provide a forum for hundreds of grassroots lobbyists from throughout the state to gather and demonstrate their widespread support.

Make your plans now to attend. We hope you will want to be there for all three days, but know that busy schedules can make that impossible. The schedule is flexible and we keep the costs low. The registration fee is only \$25 and covers materials and programs for all three days. In addition, you register and pay only for the meals you want to attend: Sunday lunch and dinner, Monday breakfast and lunch and Tuesday lunch are scheduled. Scholarships are available; please call Diane Loper at 775-787-7875 for scholarship information.

Grassroots Lobby training begins early Sunday morning at Pinon Plaza with a plenary session and workshops designed to move us forward, united in our efforts to improve the status of women, children and families in Nevada. The afternoon continues with presentations on hot issues for 2003, plus a panel of women legislators who will give us their candid impression of what to expect from the legislature this year. An informal evening of cocktails, dinner and fantastic feminist entertainment will end the day as we enjoy time with old friends and new ones, too.

Monday gives us first-hand experience at the legislature, with opportunities to observe and/or testify at legislative hearings. You'll receive a committee schedule and copies of the bills to be heard. There will be small group orientations and a chance to get your questions answered about the process of legislative lobbying.

Legislators will be invited to join us for lunch at the Carson Nugget, with a program focus on one of our major issues. Most legislators make time to meet with constituents during the afternoon, an excellent time to talk to them about your legislative interests.

Tuesday continues at the legislature with different committee hearings and provides additional opportunities for you to lobby legislators. For further information about Grassroots Lobby Days, call Pam Russell at 775-424-0711.

Correct mailing of AAUW Nevada's newsletters depends on an accurate member data base - United States Post Office and e-mail. If you relocate please notify AAUW Nevada Treasurer Shirley Hoffman. This will ensure that you receive your copy of The Sagehen and also AAUW's national publications and mailings.



The Sagehen
Winter 2002 – 2003

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